

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/EX:RMGIBSON:EMP

7-30-73 EXT. 22006

APPROVED BY NEA/EX:LEAMON R. HUNT

NEA/ARN:EDJEREJIAN (DRAFT)

A/SY:KKNAUFF (DRAFT)

NEA/EX:WTKAMPRAID

NEA:ALATHERTON

S/S - SRGAMMON

----- 100786

R 311610Z JUL 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 150091

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AFSP

SUBJ: STAFF REDUCTION

REF: BEIRUT 8165

1. REFTEL RECOMMENDATIONS BEING DISCUSSED WITH ALL CONCERNED AGENCIES OR OFFICES. DEPARTMENT PRELIMINARY VIEW IS THAT BEIRUT LOCATION NOT RPT NOT ESSENTIAL FOR POSITIONS LISTED PARA 4 OR FOR GROUPS MENTIONED PARA 5, BUT IN SOME CASES MAY OFFER ADVANTAGES OVER ALTERNATE SITES. PRELIMINARY COMMENTS BASED ON DISCUSSION TO DATE FOLLOW.

2. SY HOLDS STRONG OPINION THAT RSS MUST BE LOCATED WITH RTC AND RMO. SY BELIEVES IT FEASIBLE RELOCATE BUT TENDS TO AGREE WITH YOU ABOUT (1) USEFULNESS OF GROUPS TO YOU UNDER EMERGENCY AND (2) FACT THAT FRAGILITY OF SITUATION NOT RPT NOT SO EXTREME AS TO REQUIRE REMOVAL AT THIS TIME.

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3. USIA AGREES RAPA AND REG LIBRARIAN CAN BE RELOCATED

IF ESSENTIAL TO DO SO BUT ASKS BUREAU RECOMMEND SUITABLE ALTERNATIVES WHERE PRESENCE AND LOGISTICS MAY NOT BE PROBLEM. THEY ARE THEMSELVES GIVING CLOSE AND SERIOUS ATTENTION TO POSSIBILITIES. WE ARE LOOKING INTO RECOMMENDATION ON GEOGRAPHIC ATTACHE.

4. MOVE ON ABOLITION LABOR ATTACHE AND AIR ATTACHE POSITIONS REQUIRES COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEPARTMENTS WHICH UNDER WAY. WILL ADVISE.

5. HOPE BEIRUT AS BASE FOR OPERATION OF CIVIL AIR ATTACHE CAN BE REASSESSED. WE SEE HIS LOCATION IN SUCH A COMMERCIAL CENTER AS USEFUL IN SUCH WAY AS NO OTHER CITY IN AREA CAN BE. CONTINUING PROSPECTS HIS PLAYING ROLE IN U.S. AIRCRAFT SALES THOUGHT VERY IMPORTANT.

6. EXPECT PROVIDE MORE DEFINITE INFORMATION ON REDUCTION SHORTLY.

ROGERS

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NNN

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